

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to require all Sinclair stations to air a biased, anti-Kerry documentary just days before the election is a shocking example of how the loosening of regulations regarding media consolidation was a big mistake.

The use of our public airwaves is entrusted to these companies, and there is a responsibility that goes hand in hand with free use of those airwaves. I am appalled that a small group of corporate executives are free to allow their own political agenda to affect the programming on the public airwaves nationwide in a way that is clearly meant to effect our democratic process. If they choose to require their affiliates to carry the anti-Kerry propaganda, then they should be forced by the FCC to also air the pro-Kerry piece, "Going Upriver," or, alternately, the anti-Bush piece "Fahrenheit 911."

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.